



Department of State *23-8 Camb*
TELEGRAM

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EXCISE

Johnson 23-8
3-11-70

SECRET 966

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84
ACTION EA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 CCD-00 SGO-00 NSCE-00 AID-28 FBI-01
PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-04 IIC-01 NSC-10 O-03 OC-06
OPR-02 P-03 PER-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SCA-01 SS-00 SY-03
SCS-04 NSAE-00 CIAE-00 UOW-01 USIE-00 CU-04 R-01
/146 W

O 111040Z MARCH 70
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 248
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY MANILA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY *Trubley* DATE *10/9/80*
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

CPAC 78
SECRET PHNOM PENH 230-8 *23-8 Camb*
MANILA FOR RLG
DIA FOR DIACO-3
REF: PHNOM PENH 226, 227

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY _____ DATE _____
REASON(S) _____
EXEMPT FROM DECLASSIFICATION ☐
EXEMPT FROM RELEASE ☐
EXEMPT FROM DISSEMINATION ☐
EXEMPT FROM FOI EXEMPTIONS ☐

DISCUSSION WITH DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES AND OBSERVATION REVEAL
FOLLOWING FACTS:

1. CROWDS OF THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS PLUS OTHER UNIDENTIFIED GROUPS ATTACKED AND SACKED THREE PHN BUILDINGS, THROWING EVERYTHING MOVEABLE INTO STREET AND BURNING SAME.
2. LARGELY SAME MOB THEN MOVED SEVERAL BLOCKS TO NVN CHANCERY AND NEIGHBORING BUILDING, AS WELL AS TO NVN PRESS ATTACHE'S HOUSE/OFFICE AND REPEATED SCENARIO GIVEN AT NVN CHANCERY.

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CAMBODIAN FLAGS NOW FLYING ALL NVN AND PRG BUILDINGS.

3. ~~SAW~~ SAW RADIO TRANSMITTING EQUIPMENT BEING THROWN FROM NVN CHANCERY WINDOW. OTHER WITNESSES PICKED UP REMNANTS CONTAINERS OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES FROM BOTH EMBASSIES WITH EAST GERMAN, FRENCH AND BRITISH LABELS.

4. EMBOFF SAW TWO BURNED CARS IN FRONT NVN CHANCERY, TWO IN FRONT OF NVN PRESS ATTACHES HOUSE, SEVERAL OTHERS APPARENTLY BURNED IN FRONT OF PRG EMBASSY.

5. CONTRARY TO EARLIER REPORT, NO BUILDINGS SET AFIRE.

6. MANY PREPARED POSTERS AND BANNERS IN EVIDENCE AT SCENES OF ATTACKS. SLOGANS ATTACKED: "VC IMPERIALISTS", TOLD VC TO GET OUT OF CAMBODIA. SLOGANS, MANY OF WHICH IN ENGLISH, AND TRACTS AGAINST VISIT PHAM VAN DONG, VC AGGRESSION, VC SUBVERSION, ATTEMPTS OF VC DESTROY CAMBODIAN ECONOMY THROUGH PRACTICE OF CONTRABAND, ENCOURAGEMENT BY VC OF TREASON AGAINST RKG, FACT THAT VC CONTINUE POLICY THEIR MASTERS THE VIET MINH.

7. POLICE IN EVIDENCE BUT LARGELY DIRECTING TRAFFIC AWAY FROM EVENT AND NOT PROTECTING NVN/VC EMBASSIES.

8. ONLY TROOPS IN EVIDENCE WERE SEEN FOR A TIME IN FRONT CHICOM COMPOUND WHERE NVN/VC REPORTED HAVE TAKEN REFUGE.

9. REASONS FOR TODAY'S EVENTS REMAIN OBSCURE THOUGH WE UNDERSTAND PRIMIN TO ADDRESS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AT 1700 WHEN PRESUMABLY GIVE OFFICIAL VERSION.

10. MEANWHILE, SUPPOSITIONS ABOUND WITH GREATEST UNANSWERED QUESTION WHETHER SIHANOUK AWARE AND/OR APPROVING. SOME POSSIBILITY THAT THIS IS FINAL, DRASTIC MEASURE DEMONSTRATE RKG WORRY RE NVN/VC INTENTIONS AND STRENGTHEN SIHANOUK HAND IN FORTH COMING DISCUSSIONS MOSCOW AND PEKING. THIS WOULD FOLLOW INCREASING ANTI-VCXNVN CAMPAIGN BEGUN YEAR AGO WITH PARIS TALKS, WHEN RKG MAY WELL HAVE DECIDED THAT POSSIBLE END VIET NAM WAR WOULD BRING ADDED DANGER TO CAMBODIA AND THAT THEREFORE CAMBODIA HAD BETTER PREPARE A POSITION AS IN 1954. AS SUPPORT FOR THIS THEORY IS VISITING ITALIAN AMBASSADORS CONVERSATION WITH SIHANOUK STAFF WHICH EXPRESSED SERIOUS (FOR FIRST

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TIME) ANXIETY RE LAOS SITUATION WHICH THEY FEEL FAR DEFFERENT THAN IN PAST AND REAL THREAT TO CAMBODIA. FURTHER INDICATION BUILD-UP FOR TODAY NEXT SWEEP IN RATTANAKIRI PROVINCE, VISIT THERE OF GENERAL LON NOL PAST WEEKEND, DEMONSTRATIONS SVAY RIENG.

BI, E303

11. ~~REDACTED~~ FURTHER INFORMS THAT AT 1700 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEETING, ~~THE~~ WILL BE DISCUSSION OF ALLEGED SALE TO VC OF CAMBODIAN TERRITORY BY GENERAL NHIE TIOULONG, WHERE ELABORATE UNDERGROUND HEADQUARTERS CONSTRUCTION (COMMENT: MAYBE AREA PREVIOUSLY REPORTED BY SAIGON OPPOSITE SEVEN MOUNTAINS AREA ALTHOUGH GENERALS WIFE ALSO OWNS PLANTATION NEAR MINOT) AND TO WHICH CAMBODIAN FORBIDDEN ENTRY. ACCORDING SAME SOURCE, GENERAL LON NOL HAS REQUESTED VC GET OUT BUT HAS ALLEGEDLY BEEN REFUSED UNLESS VC REIMBURSED. FURTHERMORE, SUPERIOR AND INSOLENT ATTITUDE OF VC IN THEIR ACTIONS AND RE VC PRISONERS HAS ENRAGED RKG. APPARENTLY, ALL POPULATION (TAKE WITH GRAIN OF SALT) AND MILITARY ARE REPORTEDLY FED UP AND KAMPUCHEA KROM HAVE ALLEGEDLY OFFERED TURN ON VC IF RKG GIVES ORD.

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12. IN VIEW REPORTS THAT ANTI-VIETNAMESE ATTACKS MAY RE-OCCUR TONIGHT AND DAYS TO COME, EMBASSY PERSONNEL INSTRUCTED STAY OUT OF ALL VIETNAMESE RESTURANTS, DANCING HALLS AND OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS FOR NEXT FEW DAYS.

13. WE WOULD BE MOST INTERESTED LEARN IF SIHANOUK DISCUSSED ANY OF ABOVE WITH POMPIDOU OR OTHER FRENCH OFFICIALS PARS. ON NOON AFVN BROADCAST WE HEARD SIHANOUK STATEMENT MADE PARIS THAT PHAM VAN DONG EXPECTED VISIT PHNOM PENH IN MAY, WHICH CERTAINLY SOUNDS AS IF PRINCE AND RKG ON DIFFERENT WAVE LENGTHS.

14. FOR BANGKOK: HOPE FBIS CAN COVER NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SESSION FULLY.

15. TRUST VOA AND AFVN AND ADDRESSEES TREAT EVENT AS STRAIGHT NEWS STORY WITHOUT COMMENT.
RIVES

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